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REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claim 18 was amended for grammatical, not patentability, purposes to insert the word “and” on line 2. The amendment places the claim in better compliance with U.S. patent prosecution requirements and should not be construed as narrowing the claim’s scope. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all pending objections and rejections is requested for the reasons noted below.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge that claims 4, 5, and 14 contain allowable subject matter. However, Applicants submit that all of the claims are allowable.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Claims 1-3, 6-13, and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 4,527,737 issued to Deckard (“Deckard”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. In order to reject a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), a single reference must disclose each and every element of the claimed invention, whether inherently or explicitly. In this case, the Examiner opines that Deckard discloses all features of the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully disagree for the reasons noted below.

Claims 1 and 16

Claims 1 and 16 each claim a plunger having a cross-bore in fluid communication with a longitudinal bore. Representative of these features is Claim 1, which recites, in pertinent part:

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... the plunger having a cross-bore and a longitudinal bore in fluid communication with the cross bore ...

Nothing in Deckard teaches these claimed features. In fact, as shown in Figure 1, Deckard specifically teaches a plunger 3 formed of a solid material. Careful examination of Figure 1, and the accompanying description located at cols. 2-4, reveals no mention of a cross-bore formed in the plunger 3. Additionally, no mention is made of a longitudinal bore formed in the plunger 3 and in fluid communication with the cross-bore. Clearly, Deckard does not teach or disclose either the cross-bore or the longitudinal bore features of the claimed invention. For this reason, the 102(b) rejection is improper with regards to independent claims 1 and 16.

Claims 2, 3, 15, 16, 18

Claims 2, 3, 15, 16, and 18 recite a throttle in combination with other elements in a certain structural position not disclosed in Deckard. Representative of this claimed feature is claim 18, which states, in part:

... a throttle in fluid communication between a high pressure fuel chamber and the fuel bore ...

Deckard discloses no such feature. Instead, Deckard teaches a fuel bore 31 connected to a throttle orifice passage 73. Deckard further teaches the throttle orifice passage 73 connected to a pressure control chamber 72, which connects to a drain. A constant pressure is maintained as fuel from the fuel bore 31 flows through the throttle orifice passage 73 and into the pressure control chamber 72 as fuel drains out. On the other hand, claim 18 locates the throttle between a high pressure chamber and a fuel bore. In operation, and contrary to the teachings of Deckard,

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fuel from the high pressure chamber flows through the throttle and into the fuel bore. This is supported, for example, by Applicants' Figures 1-3 and specification, pages 8-10.

Claim 15, for example, recites similar features. Specifically, claim 15 recites in part:

... a throttle providing fluid communication from the upper surface
of the body to the fuel bore ...

However, for the same reasons as mentioned above with respect to claim 18, Deckard fails to teach or disclose the throttle features recited in claims 15 and 16.

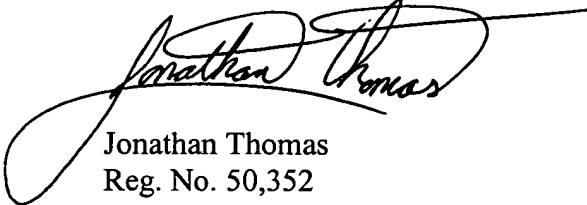
Clearly, independent claims 1, 15, 16, and 18 are in condition for allowance because each claim recites features not found in Deckard. Dependent claims 2-14 and 17 are also in condition for allowance for at least the reasons set forth with regards to independent claims 1, 15, 16, and 18, as well as for their own added features. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the 102(b) rejection of claims 1-3, 6-13, and 15-18.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed. Applicants hereby make a written conditional petition for extension of time, if required. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to **Attorney's Deposit Account No. 23-1951**.

Respectfully submitted,



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